

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 01026 280630Z

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PASS USIA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (LOWENSTEIN, JAMES G.)

SUBJECT: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN'S FEBRUARY 26
VISIT TO THE HAGUE

DURING HIS ONE-DAY VISIT TO THE HAGUE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN MET WITH SEVERAL TOP GON OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH FOREIGN POLICY INCLUDING FONOFF STATE SECRETARY BRINKHORTS, WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION ITALIANER PRESENT; FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR RUTTEN; AND JAN MERCKELBACH, PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL'S FOREIGN AND DEFENSE AFFAIRS ADVISOR. MR. LOWENSTEIN WAS ALSO A GUEST AT THE AMBASSADOR'S LUNCHEON FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SECOND CHAMBER'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (WHO WERE IN THE MIDST OF THE SECOND DAY OF THEIR DEBATE ON THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S 1975 BUDGET). FOLLOWING LUNCHEON MR. LOWENSTEIN CHAIRED A LIVELY AND MUTUALLY INFORMATIVE SEMINAR WITH DUTCH INTELLECTUAL LEADERS AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS WRITERS WHICH EXAMINED MAJOR ASPECTS OF US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS AND THE ROLE OF THE US CONGRESS IN FOREIGN POLICY.

2. MR. LOWENSTEIN'S DISCUSSIONS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY COVERED THE PRESIDENT'S ENERGY PROGRAM AND THE
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US ECONOMIC SITUATION; POLITICAL COOPERATION WITHIN THE

EC-9; US-EC 9 CONSULTATIONS; EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE AND THE TROUBLESOME PLO ANGLE; CYPRUS; CSCE: MBFR, PARTICULARLY OPTION 3; AND MILITARY SALES TO TURKEY BY EUROPEAN ALLIES.

3. COMMENT: MR. LOWENSTEIN'S VISIT WAS MOST USEFUL IN SHARPENING DUTCH UNDERSTANDING OF US THINKING AND OBJECTIVES ON MAJOR ISSUES OF CONCERN TO EUROPEANS. IT WAS ESPECIALLY TIMELY IN VIEW OF CURRENT WELL-PUBLICIZED DIFFERENCES TO HAVE HIS EXPERIENCED COMMENTS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES. ALL OF THE DUTCH OFFICIALS EXPRESSED THEIR WARM APPRECIATION FOR HIS COMING TO SEE THEM AND HOPED THAT HE WOULD RETURN ON AN EARLY OCCASION. THE OFF-THE-RECORD NATURE OF THE SEMINAR PRECLUDED MEDIA COVERAGE BUT SERVED THE IMPORTANT PURPOSE OF GIVING A REPRESENTATIVE GROUP OF THINKING DUTCHMEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR AN AUTHORITATIVE EXPOSITION OF US VIEWS AND IN TURN TO ASK SERIOUS AND WELL-CONSIDERED QUESTIONS WHICH WERE ANSWERED IN THE SAME VEIN.
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